

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-15 are all the claims presently pending in the application. There are no prior art rejections. Claims 1, 5, 11, and 13-15 stand rejected upon informalities (e.g., 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph). The claims have been amended to overcome the informalities. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication that Claims 1, 5, 11, and 13-15 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome informalities or in independent form. Claims 2-4, 6-10, and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1-15 have been amended in a manner believed fully responsive to the points raised by the Examiner, thereby to pass all of the claims to allowance. No new matter has been added.

It is noted that the claim amendments herein are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims, or for any statutory requirements of patentability.

Further, it is noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements, even if amended herein or later during prosecution.

### **FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-15, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in

Serial No.: 10/543,087  
Docket No. JP25013PCTUS  
NIS.073

8

condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in fees or to credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully submitted,



Sean M. McGinn, Esq.  
Registration No.: 34,386

Date: 1/4/08

**MCGINN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY  
LAW GROUP, PLLC**  
8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200  
Vienna, Virginia 22182-3817  
(703) 761-4100  
Customer No. 21254